

HONORS PLACEMENT STUDY GUIDE- WORLD HISTORY

Part 1: Historical Vocab:

Be prepared to match the following terms to the correct definition

Imperialism	Cultural Diffusion	Culture
Civilization	Monarchy	Theocracy
Democracy	Republic	Feudalism
Industrial Revolution	Protestant Reformation	Scientific Revolution
Enlightenment	Neolithic Agricultural Revolution.	Genghis Khan
Alexander the Great	Julius Caesar	Buddha
Muhammad	Martin Luther	

Part 2: Document Analysis:

Be prepared to answer multiple choice questions that utilize charts, quotes, maps and other sources. Students will be asked to identify author's arguments, determine fact vs opinion, compare and contrast , and draw conclusions. See sample question attached

Part 3: Close Reading:

Read the articles attached. Be prepared to identify the author's main idea and compare and contrast the author's arguments.

Part 4: Short Answer:

Using your prior knowledge of history, respond to the prompt below:

Throughout history, various circumstances have led individuals to develop or modify ideas in ways that can drastically impact society, government or technological advancement.

Select one individual from your study of world history and discuss and evaluate how this individual's idea/action affected a society or societies

You will be graded on

1. the clarity of your thesis in choosing a person and forming an opinion
2. the organization of the paper
3. the use of historical evidence
4. the analysis of that evidence to support your idea

Sample multiple choice:

Document 9

If a son strike his father, his hands shall be hewn off.

If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out.

If he put out the eye of a man's slave, or break the bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half of its value.

If anyone is committing a robbery and is caught, then he shall be put to death.

If anyone steal a water wheel from the field, he shall pay five shekels in money to its owner.

If anyone open his ditches to water his crop, but is careless, and the water flood the field of his neighbor, then he shall pay his neighbor corn for his loss.

If a man marry a woman and she bear sons to him; if this woman then dies, then her father shall have no claim on her dowry; it belongs to her sons.

Specific laws from the Code of Hammurabi, a king who in the 18th century B.C. created a vast empire including what had been Sumer and much of the rest of Mesopotamia.

1. Below are four statements about Document 9. One statement is a reasonable inference about the document, Choose the reasonable statement

Thirty Million . . . and Counting
© 1994 / Ignacio González

October 12 is a day of celebration for some and a time of mourning for others. While some people contend that Christopher Columbus was a brave explorer who deserves to be revered, others counter that he was a brutal person and an incompetent navigator who ushered in centuries of death and oppression for those who lived on this continent before his arrival. Where did such divergent views come from? And more importantly, who is right?

The traditional view of Columbus as a fearless navigator and adventurer has long-dominated the textbooks of grade-school children throughout this country. This view is in line with the notion that every "hero" this country has is a person of impeccable morals and exceptional courage. This country refuses to allow any person associated with its founding to be seen in any other than the most favorable light.

A few decades ago, grade-school textbooks began embracing the concept of multiculturalism; strict Eurocentric views were no longer appropriate. At this time the view of Columbus underwent a revision in these books. Now many of these textbooks recount the atrocities he committed along with the traditional view of Columbus. Of course, there are those who see this change as blasphemous and un-American; they consider "revisionism" (the changing of history) a dirty word. Revisionism, in and of itself, is pointless. But when the history being revised was originally constructed incorrectly, revisionism serves a useful purpose.

The blame for the thirty million or so human beings who have died as a result of Columbus' invasion must not rest entirely on Columbus. He merely initiated the destruction and enslavement of these people when he invaded this continent and shipped five hundred Arawak "Indians" to Spain (two hundred of whom died along the way). He left a legacy of racism and genocide, and for this he must be held accountable. As an individual he directly contributed only a negligible fraction to the death of those millions---but it was Columbus who paved the way for others who would continue and expand what he started.

Supposedly, Columbus Day is a time to honor a great man and to praise the "discovery" of a "New World" which we call America today. When we understand that the invasion and subsequent exploitation of this continent was achieved at the expense of millions of lives and dozens of native cultures, we find more reason to mourn than to celebrate. The invasion of this continent by Columbus was an historic event and it should not be overlooked, but we should remember what was lost and not just what was "found".

Should we impose our late-twentieth century moral judgments on late-fifteenth century individuals? After all, "discovery and conquest" were commonplace at the time. If we truly believe that the taking of human lives is morally averse, then that belief should transcend time and encompass any action by any individual at any point in history. Forgiving such atrocities has a grimly transitional implication: Murder was acceptable then, it is intolerable now, but maybe it will be acceptable again someday. More importantly, we should consider the message being sent: You kill one person and you get the death penalty---you kill one million and you get a holiday.

Taken from: <http://www.mexica.net/literat/Columbus.php>

The Christopher Columbus Controversy

By Michael S. Berliner

Columbus Day approaches, but to the "politically correct" this is no cause for celebration. On the contrary, they view the arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492 as an occasion to be mourned. They have mourned, they have attacked, and they have intimidated schools across the country into replacing Columbus Day celebrations with "ethnic diversity" days.

The politically correct view is that Columbus did not discover America, because people had lived here for thousands of years. Worse yet, it's claimed, the main legacy of Columbus is death and destruction. Columbus is routinely vilified as a symbol of slavery and genocide, and the celebration of his arrival likened to a celebration of Hitler and the Holocaust. The attacks on Columbus are ominous, because the actual target is Western civilization.

Did Columbus "discover" America? Yes--in every important respect. This does not mean that no human eye had been cast on America before Columbus arrived. It does mean that Columbus brought America to the attention of the civilized world, i.e., to the growing, scientific civilizations of Western Europe. The result, ultimately, was the United States of America. It was Columbus' discovery for Western Europe that led to the influx of ideas and people on which this nation was founded--and on which it still rests. The opening of America brought the ideas and achievements of Aristotle, Galileo, Newton, and the thousands of thinkers, writers, and inventors who followed.

Prior to 1492, what is now the United States was sparsely inhabited, unused, and undeveloped. The inhabitants were primarily hunter-gatherers, wandering across the land, living from hand-to-mouth and from day-to-day. There was virtually no change, no growth for thousands of years. With rare exception, life was nasty, brutish, and short: there was no wheel, no written language, no division of labor, little agriculture and scant permanent settlement; but there were endless, bloody wars. Whatever the problems it brought, the vilified Western culture also brought enormous, undreamed-of benefits, without which most of today's Indians would be infinitely poorer or not even alive.

Columbus should be honored, for in so doing, we honor Western civilization.

Taken from: <http://www.aynrand.org/site/News2?id=6165>